



St. Lucie County Department of Public Safety  
Division of Emergency Management  
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## **HURRICANE WILMA RECOVERY REPORT**

**Updates at 8 a.m., noon & 5:00 p.m. on WQCS 88.9 FM.**

**The Hurricane Information Line is activated.  
The number is (772) 462-2766.  
Residents should NOT call 911, except for emergencies.**

Hurricane Situation Report 17  
Created (Date/Time): Wednesday, October 26, 2005 @ noon  
EOC Activation Level: 1-Full

**Newest information is highlighted.**

### CURRENT SITUATION:

Recovery efforts are currently underway countywide.

### COUNTY ACTIONS:

#### **Roving Bus Brigade:**

- St. Lucie County will implement a "Bus Brigade" today by 1 p.m. today, Wednesday, Oct. 26 in the following neighborhoods:
  - Lakewood Park, Windsong Mobile Home Park, Gator Trace, Spanish Lakes Fairways and Spanish Lakes Country Club.
- The busses, from St. Lucie County School District and Community Transit, will have ice, water and MREs (meals ready to eat).

#### **FEMA:**

- St. Lucie County has been designated by the federal government as eligible for Individual Assistance. Residents should call (800) 621-FEMA to register for assistance.

**Debris Pick-up:**

- The County will pick-up all eligible debris, Vegetative as well as Construction & Demolition (C&D) generated by Hurricane Wilma, from the Public Rights-of-Way, which lie within the Unincorporated Areas of St. Lucie County. Additionally, the County will pick-up debris staged adjacent to private roads and roadways within Gated Communities providing a Right-of-Entry form is filed with the County. Call (772) 462-3500 for additional information.
- For debris to be eligible it must be placed at the roadside by the homeowner(s), their Association, or a volunteer not-for-profit organization. If a contractor is contracted for tree removal or repairs to a structure, said contractor must be licensed and is held liable for legal disposal of all materials generated as a result of their services.
- Household waste placed within receptacles, recyclables and yard waste placed within bags and/or containers will be pick-up on their scheduled days. Hazard Materials are to be legally disposed of. Debris piles discovered to contain hazardous materials will not be picked up. Additionally, "White Goods" such as refrigerators, AC units, dishwashers, etc. should be placed at the curbside separately for pick-up.
- Pick-up times for the debris will be established at a later date.

**Curbside recycling, unincorporated St. Lucie County:** For residents of urban, unincorporated St. Lucie County, curbside recycling is suspended until further notice.

**Distribution Centers:**

There are two distributions centers in St. Lucie County. Today, Wednesday, Oct. 26, both centers are distributing ice and water, starting at 8 a.m.:

- Lawnwood Stadium, 1302 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce.
- Port St. Lucie City Center, 9500 South U.S.1, Port St. Lucie.

**Other Distribution:**

- St. Lucie County has opened a "Blue Tarp" Distribution Center at the St. Lucie County Civic Center, 2300 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce.

**Curfew and ban on alcohol sales:**

- Note time change: Wednesday, Oct. 26: A curfew remains in effect tonight from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m.
- The ban on alcohol sales is now lifted.

**Schools:**

- All St. Lucie County Schools will be CLOSED Wednesday, Oct. 26, and Thursday, Oct. 27.
- All IRCC classes at all campuses resume Wednesday, Oct. 26. The River Hammock Student Housing is also open.
- St. Anastasia Catholic School will OPEN Thursday, Oct. 27.

- Florida Atlantic University will remain closed through Sunday, October 30 and will resume classes on Monday, Oct. 31.
- All St. Lucie County School District essential employees and cafeteria managers should report to work today, Wednesday, Oct. 26.
- St. Anastasia Catholic School and John Carroll High School: Only teachers and maintenance staff should report on Wednesday, Oct. 25.
- Saint Andrews Episcopal School in Fort Pierce will be closed Monday, Oct. 24 & Tuesday, Oct. 25.
- All St. Lucie County Public Schools will be closed Tuesday, Oct. 25.
- St. Anastasia Catholic School and John Carroll Catholic High School will be closed Tuesday, Oct. 25.
- Florida Atlantic University's classes and normal business operations will be closed beginning at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 22 through Monday, Oct. 24. All programs and offices at the A.D. Henderson University School, FAU High School and the Karen Slattery Child Development Center will be closed on Monday. Classes and regular university operations are expected to resume on Tuesday, Oct. 25. For continual updates on FAU's status, visit [www.fau.edu](http://www.fau.edu).
- All St. Lucie County Public Schools will be CLOSED Monday, Oct. 24.

#### **Bellsouth:**

- Customers who report outages are eligible for pro-rated bills.
- Residential customers without service are asked to telephone (toll free) 877-737-2478.
- Business customers without service are asked to call (toll free) 866-620-6900.
- Hearing impaired customers without service are asked to call (toll free) 888-341-2355.
- Report outages on the web at [www.bellsouth.com/repair](http://www.bellsouth.com/repair).

#### **Fort Pierce Utilities Authority:**

- Fort Pierce Utilities Authority reports 60% of its customers have been restored. 16,000 FPUA customers have been restored.

#### **FP&L:**

- FP&L reports approximately 51% of St. Lucie County customers currently without power.

#### **Comcast Cable**

- If you have power and no cable, call (800) COMCAST (266-2278).

#### **Salvation Army:**

- Soup kitchen is serving hot meals from 11 am-1 p.m. today at 711 Orange Avenue in Fort Pierce.

#### **Illegal Dumping:**

- Residents and business owners are reminded that it is illegal to dump debris/trash in unauthorized areas. Authorities will monitor and prosecute any violators.

**Donations:**

- Mustard Seed is accepting non-perishable items. Please call 772-465-6021.
- Treasure Coast Food Bank at 3051 N. 25<sup>th</sup> Street in Fort Pierce, is accepting non-perishable food items. Please call 772-971-3337

**Volunteers:**

- Call 462-2766 to volunteer to assist with recovery efforts.

**North and South Bridges:**

- Only residents, business owners and service personnel will be permitted to South and North Hutchinson Islands until the midnight curfew tonight. Identification or placards noting business or residence on the barrier islands is required for entrance. Motorists must use caution when traveling due to localized flooding.

**Roads:**

- Still closed on Wednesday, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>: 25<sup>th</sup> Street from Edwards Road to Midway Road is closed. Local traffic only. Flooding at Bell Avenue area.
- Law enforcement urges residents to treat intersections with non-working lights as 4-way stops. Temporary stop signs have been placed at intersections where traffic signals are out. Residents should use caution at intersections. Each vehicle must come to a complete stop before proceeding through the intersection.
- Law enforcement urges residents to treat intersections with non-working lights as 4-way stops. Road crews will be putting temporary stop signs at intersections where traffic signals are out as soon as the storm passes. Residents should use caution at intersections.

**Fort Pierce:**

- Fort Pierce City Hall is open as of Tuesday, Oct. 25.
- The Indian Hills Golf Course is closed until further notice.

**Port St. Lucie:**

- Port St. Lucie City Hall will OPEN Thursday, Oct. 27.
- Normal garbage pick up service will continue on Tuesday, Oct. 25.

**Courts:**

- Courts in St. Lucie, Martin and Indian River counties are open today in Fort Pierce, Wednesday, October 26. The South County Annex will not be open today (Wed., 10/26.) Also, courts will not be open today in Okeechobee County.

**St. Lucie County Government:**

- All St. Lucie County government offices will reopen to the public on Thursday, Oct. 27 (INCLUDING the St. Lucie West complex.)
- The St. Lucie County Landfill will be open Wednesday, October 26, 2005, at 7:30 AM. Only regularly scheduled garbage pick-up.

- Fairwinds Golf Course closed until further notice.
- The following County facilities will open on Thursday, Oct. 27: Hurston, Fort Pierce & Port St. Lucie branch libraries (Morningside & Lakewood Park branches do not have electricity) parks, Oxbow Eco-Center, Fort Pierce Community Center (Lincoln Park Community Center has no electricity). All beaches remain closed until further notice.
- St. Lucie County Government offices will be closed on Tuesday, Oct. 25. County offices will reopen on Wednesday, Oct. 26. (Offices include: Board of County Commissioners, Tax Collector, Clerk of Courts, Supervisor of Elections).
- Courts in the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit (St. Lucie, Martin, Indian River and Okeechobee counties) will be closed Tuesday, October 25, 2005.
- The St. Lucie County Landfill will be CLOSED on Tuesday, Oct. 25. There will be NO garbage pick-up county-wide.
- St. Lucie County Property Appraiser's offices will be closed to the public, however, Property Appraiser's employees should report to work to begin assessing damage.
- All St. Lucie County Department Directors must report to the Emergency Operations Center Tuesday, Oct. 25 at 10 a.m.
- Sheriff's office civilian/administrative employees should contact their supervisor to find out if they will report to work on Tuesday, Oct. 25.
- The St. Lucie County Board of County Commission meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 25 is canceled.
- St. Lucie County Emergency Operations Center will be at full activation Sunday, Oct. 23, 2005 at 7 p.m. The EOC will be at partial activation Sunday, Oct. 23 at 8 a.m.
- A local State of Emergency will be declared at 6 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22, 2005.
- The St. Lucie County Special Board of County Commission meeting (scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 25) regarding the FP&L coal plant has been rescheduled to Monday, Nov. 7 at 6 p.m.

#### **Generator Safety:**

- NEVER use a generator indoors, including in homes, garages, basements, crawl spaces, and other enclosed or partially enclosed areas, even with ventilation. DO NOT refuel inside and allow the generator to cool down before refueling.

#### **Shelters:**

- There are 24 residents in the county's two special needs shelters.
- Westwood High School shelter location has been closed.
- The shelters at Lakewood Park Elementary in Fort Pierce and Morningside Elementary in Port St. Lucie have been closed. Residents at Lakewood Park still needing shelter were moved to Fort Pierce Westwood High School, 1801 Panther Lane, in Fort Pierce. Residents at Morningside still needing shelter were moved to Floresta Elementary, 1501 SE Gowin Drive.
- Overnight Sunday, the shelter numbers were: general shelters: 568, special needs: 119.
- As of 5:00 p.m. Sunday, 432 St. Lucie County residents are in six (6) shelters. (Special Needs: 101, General Shelter: 331)
- No lunch will be served at any shelter on Sunday, Oct. 23.

- Residents going to any shelter should bring a pillow, blanket, three day supply of non-perishable food, three day supply of water, prescription medicines, important papers, change of clothing, and personal hygiene articles. No pets, alcohol or firearms permitted in any shelter.

### **Medical Needs:**

- Please be advised that due to the lack of electricity and phone line problems in Port St. Lucie, the toll free number for Renal Advantage (formerly known as Gambro Healthcare) can't be updated to inform patients of the status of the Port St. Lucie office. Port St. Lucie dialysis patients should call 465-6551 beginning at 5 a.m. Wednesday morning (Oct. 26) to schedule an appointment in the Fort Pierce office which is operational. For more information, contact Catherine Christian at (772) 595-3663.

### **Health Department:**

- WIC clients having appointments on Monday, Oct. 24, and Tuesday, Oct. 25, can pick their WIC checks up at St. Lucie County Health Department Fort Pierce site, 714 Avenue C, starting Wednesday, Oct. 26, at 8 a.m. WIC services for newborns will also be available at this site beginning at the same time.
- Oxypros will set up at 1200 SE Industrial Blvd., in Port St. Lucie, (behind Village Green) from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily. Residents must bring empty oxygen cylinders to exchange for full cylinders.
- Oxygen patients seeking shelter are required to bring their own oxygen tanks and concentrators to the shelter.

### **Community Transit:**

- Community Transit will be fully operational on Thursday, Oct. 27.
- Community Transit is closed Wednesday, Oct. 26.
- Community Transit is closed today, Tuesday, Oct. 25.